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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-18 (Cancelled)

19 (Original) A method of removing a staple comprising:

providing a first jaw comprising a converging first lifting surface and first bearing surface and a converging first medial surface and first lateral surface and a second jaw comprising a converging second lifting surface and second bearing surface and a converging second medial surface and second lateral surface;

disposing said first and second jaws on opposed sides of a staple;

forcing said staple upwardly and outwardly by moving said first and second jaw into an at least partially overlapping arrangement underneath said staple.

20 (Original) The method according to claim 19 wherein said first jaw comprises a fulcrum heel, said method further comprising rocking said staple remover across said fulcrum heel.

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21 (New) The method according to claim 19 wherein said forcing said staple upwardly and outwardly comprises pivoting said first jaw and said second jaw into said at least partially overlapping position by forcing a first handle coupled across a pivot to said first jaw toward a second handle coupled across said pivot to said second jaw.

22 (New) The method according to claim 21 wherein said first jaw comprises a pocket formed in said first medial surface, and said first handle comprises an extension releasably retainable in said pocket.

23 (New) The method according to claim 21 wherein said first jaw comprises a pocket extending from an edge of said first jaw, and said first handle comprises an extension releasably retainable in said pocket.

24 (New) The method according to claim 21 wherein said first and second handles comprise stamped steel.

25 (New) The method according to claim 19 wherein said first and second jaws comprise cast powdered metal.